

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6299

UNCLAS DAKAR 1591

AFDROUGHT

EO 11652: NA

SUBJ: SENEGAL DROUGHT SURVEY

REF: STATE 020057

PER REFTEL AUTHORIZATION, FFPO, ANDERSON, HARDY, AND REP.
FROM MIN. COOPERATION UNDERTOOK SURVEY CROP/LIVESTOCK/GRAIN
STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION SITUATION IN FOUR HARD-HIT AREAS IN
NORTH AND EAST OF SENEGAL, MAR. SEVEN THRU NINE. VISITED WERE
LINGUERE(DIOURBEL); BAKEL(ORIENTAL); MATAM AND PODOR(FLEUVE).

OBSERVATION FOLLOW:

1. OVERALL GRAIN PRODUCTION 1973 IS APPROXIMATELY 40 PER CENT
OF PRE-DROUGHT YEARS, RISING TO FIFTY PER CENT OR MORE IN
RICE GROWING AREAS ADJACENT RIVER.
2. LIVESTOCK LOSSES VARIED FROM TWENTY TO FORTY PER CENT, THOUGH
SOME VILLAGES REGISTERED SEVENTY-FIVE PER CENT LOSS.
OVERALL CATTLE MORTALITY THESE AREAS ASSESSED AT BETWEEN TWENTY
AND THIRTY PER CENT. TIMELY PROVISION LIVESTOCK FEED LAST YEAR
BY U.S. AND OTHER DONOR COUNTRIES CREDITED WITH AVERTING A MUCH
HIGHER DEATH TOLL. FEED REQUIREMENT 1974 LIKELY TO BE LESS,
VIEW IMPROVEMENT PASTURE SITUATION.

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3. ALL TITLE II GRAIN RECEIVED BY THE FOUR DEPARTMENTS IN

THE THREE REGIONS COVERED HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED. EACH PERSON IN DROUGHT-AFFECTED FAMILY ALLOTTED TEN KILOGRAMS, OR THREE WEEKS' SUPPLY AT TWO HUNDRED FIFTY GRAMMES/DAY. IN ACTUAL PRACTICE, AFFECTED FAMILY OF FIVE RECEIVES ENTIRE 100 LB. SACK OF COMMODITY, AND A FAMILY OF TEN, TWO 100 LB. SACKS. DISTRIBUTION IMPLEMENTED BY COMMITTEE AT BOTH ARRONDISSEMENT AND VILLAGE LEVELS. EIGHTY PER CENT OF POPULATION OF FOUR DEPARTMENTS VISITED HAVE REPORTEDLY RECEIVED SOME FOOD ASSISTANCE, AND NEED WILL CONTINUE FOR REST OF YEAR.

4. EXISTING STORAGE ADEQUATE ONLY FOR SMALL QUANTITIES OF COMMODITY, AND TRANSPORTATION CAPABILITY QUITE LIMITED; HENCE NECESSITY FOR RAPID DISTRIBUTION IN LARGER QUANTITIES THAN NORMALLY PRESCRIBED. IN GENERAL, THE LESS ACCESSIBLE THE AREA IN TERMS OF DISTANCES COVERED FROM POINT OF DISPATCH AND CONDITION OF ROADS, GREATER THE NEED FOR IMPROVED STORAGE, AND INTRA-DEPARTMENT TRANSPORT FACILITIES TO MATCH.

5. IN SOME AREAS, MIGRATION ABLE-BODIED WORKERS FROM VILLAGES TO URBAN AREAS, IN SEARCH OF WORK, IS CONTINUING. LARGE NUMBER THESE STILL BELIEVED TO BE WITHOUT EMPLOYMENT.

6. OFFICIALS AT PREFECTURE LEVEL CONVEYED IMPRESSION OF COMPETENCE AND DEDICATION. EVIDENT THAT THEY HAVE DONE VERY WORKMANLIKE JOB OF GETTING FOOD OUT TO PEOPLE IN VILLAGES. ONCAD ROLE IN SUPPLYING THEM HOWEVER CONSIDERABLY LESS SATISFACTORY IN TERMS OF IRREGULAR DELIVERIES AND INADEQUATE ACCOUNTING OF EMERGENCY GRAIN SHIPMENTS.

7. STATISTICAL DATA AVAILABLE AT DEPARTMENT LEVEL CONSIDERED ADEQUATE. HOWEVER, ACCOUNTABILITY POSITION MIXED, WITH OFFICIALS IN TWO DEPARTMENTS OF FOUR VISITED UNABLE TO CONFIRM ACTUAL NUMBER DELIVERIES/TONNAGE OF COMMODITY RECEIVED FROM DAKAR.

8. OVERALL IMPRESSION WAS ONE OF REDUCED, BUT CONTINUING, NEED FOR FOOD AID IN FOUR AREAS COVERED.
AGGREY

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